

**Washington, DC** - This afternoon, Congressman Charlie Gonzalez (TX-20) applauded House's passage of the conference report of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2008. The bill includes \$7.475 million for San Antonio's VIA Metropolitan Transportation Authority and will allow for construction of a new bus facility along with the creation of a bus rapid transit system in San Antonio. The bus rapid transit system will directly address local traffic concerns by helping reduce congestion in high traffic areas across the city.

“These federal resources will prove to be an invaluable investment in our city's transportation infrastructure,” said Congressman Gonzalez. “The innovative investment in public transportation will help fight traffic congestion, create local jobs, and most importantly, strengthen our economy as a direct result of the public transportation opportunities it provides our residents,” he added.

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